

MUSTANG DAILY

VOLUME 57, NO. 55 ★ WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20, 1993

Poll says students want social change

Student activism increases nationwide, but party participation down since '88

By Amy Hooper
Staff Writer

A recently released survey involving U.S. college students found that, despite a greater interest in politics, student political participation has declined.

More than 200,000 students at more than 400 colleges and universities across the country participated in the survey.

It found that college freshmen value political and social change along with better race relations.

Survey director Eric L. Dey of UCLA's Graduate School of Education attributed the increased interest in racial under-

election in 1988; 24.6 percent compared to 18.5 percent.

Despite greater political interest, however, the survey found students' participation in traditional politics declined from 8.7 percent in 1988 to 7.3 percent in 1992.

Interest in other social issues resulted in two out of every five freshmen, or 40.5 percent, participating in organized demonstrations last year. That figure is more than double the levels recorded in the late 1960s.

Carrol R. McKibbin, a Cal Poly political science professor, said he found no discrepancy between the interest and the participation in politics.

"I always feel you vote with your feet," McKibbin said. "When somebody says 'I'm interested and I'm working in Ross Perot's campaign,' that's evidence that they are interested."

The survey also revealed a continuing change in students' political identification, with 26.7 percent calling themselves "liberal" or "far left." The number of students endorsing the "conservative" or "far right" labels remained the same at 20.3 percent.

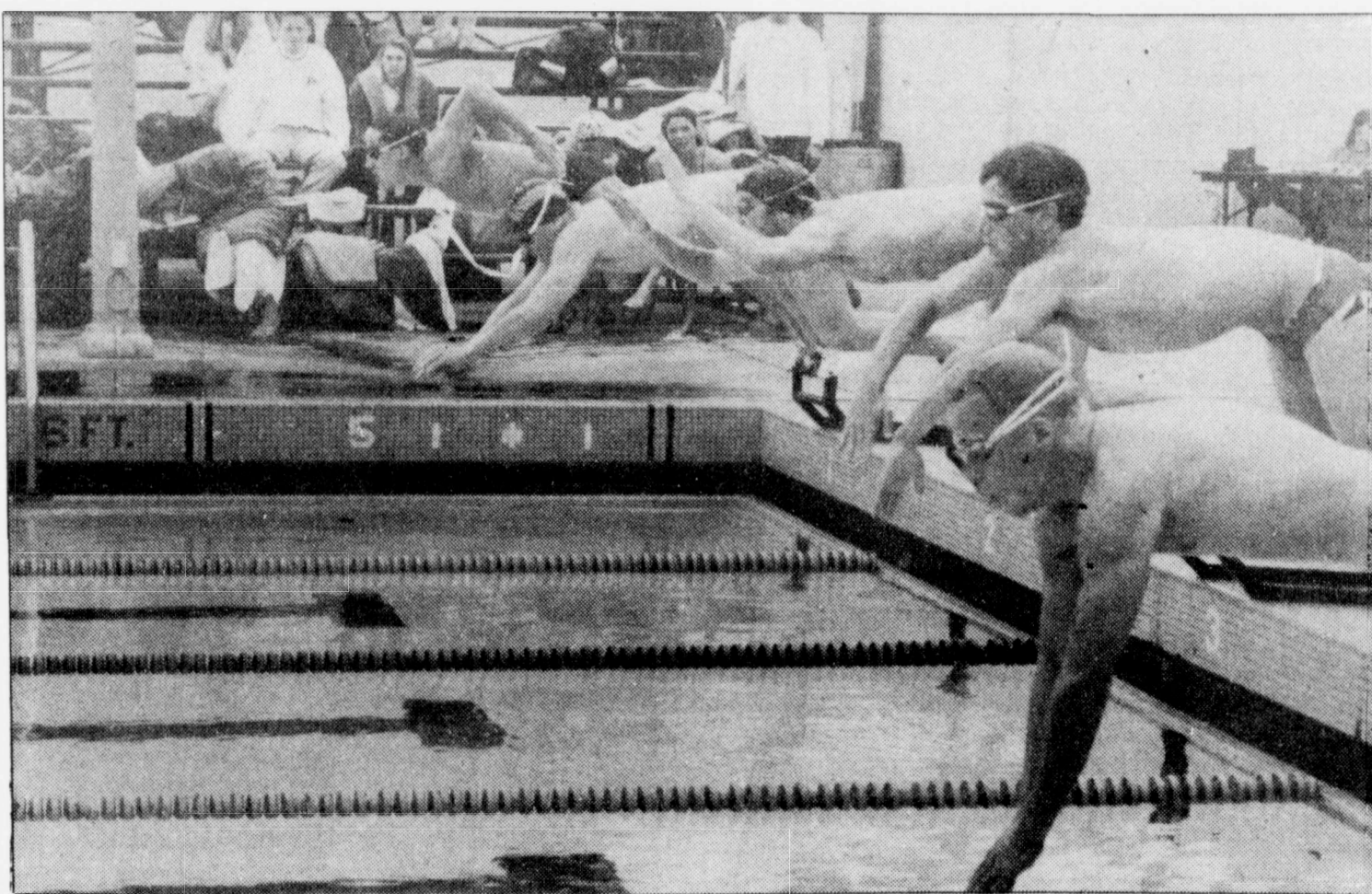
While McKibbin agreed with the finding that more students call themselves "liberal," he said he didn't think that trend applied to Cal Poly.

"This is an upper-middle-class university," he said. "It's heavily underrepresented on those things that typically bring a liberal point of view."

"The fact of the matter is there are so many conservatives that when you bring up the issue

See FRESHMEN, page 3

Taking the dip



CRAIG STOUT/Mustang Daily

Cal Poly's men's swim team dove off to victory Saturday. For related story, see Sports on back page.

"This is an upper-middle-class university. It's heavily underrepresented on those things that typically bring a liberal point of view."

Carrol R. McKibbin
Political Science Professor

standing to the unrest last April following the Rodney King verdict.

"The circumstances surrounding last spring's riots in Los Angeles seems to have been the catalyst for a re-examination of racial issues across the nation," Dey said.

The rise in activism parallels an increased interest in politics. The survey found that more freshmen "frequently discussed politics" this past election year than during the last presidential

Nation hopeful, wary of Clinton

By John King
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The profound disappointment Bob Powers felt on election night has given way to a season of hope, more for his 14 grandchildren than himself. Powers didn't vote for Bill Clinton, but he's rooting for the incoming president now.

"We're behind him," said Powers, a track coach who lives in Branson, Mo. "We will do whatever it takes to help him make this a better world."

It is a view shared by many across the land. However they voted Nov. 3, Americans appear eager for a new beginning, hopeful that their young, new president will deliver on his promises

— to get the economy moving, solve the health care crisis, end the governing gridlock and somehow preserve their future well-being.

"If happy days are not here again, hopeful days are here again," said 63-year-old Ethel Ambrose of Little Rock.

Clinton, the 46-year-old son of Hope, Ark., will place his hand on a family bible at noon today and become the 42nd president in America's two-century-old democracy.

There is considerable skepticism, too.

For all their optimism, the folks who made Clinton president — and those who voted for

See CLINTON, page 6

PRESIDENT CLINTON

Today: Across the nation, optimism and skepticism greet the new president.

Thursday: To be sure, one group of Poly students isn't thrilled with Clinton already.

Friday: Political science professors tell what to expect during Clinton's first 100 days in office.

Police detain attack suspect

By Matthew Hoy
Staff Writer

Police may have a suspect in a series of sexual assaults on several women in the Cal Poly area.

San Luis Obispo Police officials said Detective Isabel Funaro was with the district attorney reviewing the case on Tuesday afternoon. Funaro is expected to call a press conference today if it is determined they have enough evidence to try the suspect.

The suspect in the attacks is currently being held on unrelated theft charges. He is believed to be responsible for four separate attacks on local college students.

The attacks occurred between Nov. 18 and Dec. 12 of 1992. The last was an assault on a student while she slept in her Sierra Madre dorm room.

Cal Poly aggies smile as rain soaks city

By Liz Weber
Staff Writer

The nearly three inches of rain that fell in San Luis Obispo over the holiday weekend may have annoyed some, but Cal Poly's agricultural community was far from irritated.

San Luis Obispo Fire Department spokesperson Gayle Rosenberger said the department had one call early Sunday morning regarding a possible mudslide.

Rosenberger said five fire personnel and four city employees spent two and a half hours pumping water to alleviate pressure on a retaining wall.

At Cal Poly, Animal Science Department Head Phillip Doub said the recent rains are a blessing.

"We need to recharge both our surface and underground reservoirs and you can't do that without having normal or above-normal rainfall," Doub said. "This type of

concentrated rainfall is probably the best to do that."

"It's detrimental, but it's a small irritation compared to the continuing need for water in California," Doub said.

"It's concentrated rainfall, and we'd surely like to have breaks, but I'd bite my tongue before I'd say that I'm at all inconvenienced by the water," Doub said.

Farm animals, however, would disagree, Doub said.

"(They) will be happy to have a little sunshine," Doub said.

Dairy Science Department Head Ed Jaster said the dairy cattle weren't inconvenienced.

"The cows remained happy, contented animals," he said.

Jaster said the new dairy unit prevented any major problems.

"I'm sure some livestock units have suffered much more than ours," he said.

"But because of our new facilities, the animals are under cover."

Jaster also said the rains were needed.

"(The) pastures will grow (and) the reservoirs will get recharged," he said. "I think it's going to be a big benefit to all."

"Any time you have rainfall, it certainly puts a stress on any farming enterprise, but it's been really welcome."

Crop science professor H. Paul Fountain said his department lost part of a roof to the storm. But there weren't any other major problems, he said.

"There were small erosions," Fountain said. "We came through pretty well."

Cal Poly Ornamental Horticulture Department Head Stephen Angley had similar reports.

"We were luckier than most," he said. "We came out really good. There was no real damage."

INSIDE

World

The first U.S. troops returned Tuesday from famine-stricken Somalia / **page two**

Opinion

Amy Hooper doesn't have a car in San Luis Obispo — and that's just fine with her / **page four**

Sports

Men's basketball added both a win and a loss to its record over the weekend / **back page**

WORLD★NATION★STATE

First U.S. combat troops return from Somalia

MOGADISHU, Somalia (AP) — The first American combat troops flew home from Somalia on Tuesday with excitement, relief and a feeling that they brought some stability to this far-off ravaged land.

The chief U.S. military spokesman, Marine Col. Fred Peck, said he did not know when more of the 24,715 American troops would be withdrawn.

The United States has been stymied in its efforts to transfer military control of Somalia to a U.N. command because the Security Council has not yet acted on a required resolution.

The top U.N. envoy to Somalia, Ismat Kittani of Iraq, indicated Monday that the U.S. deadline of Feb. 1 would not likely be met.

The 556 Marines who left for Camp Pendleton, Calif., were jubilant as they departed, many of them cheering loudly, happy to be out of harm's way and the

"It's a pretty hard place to be living in, the heat, the dirt, being shot at. I've only been here for five weeks. It seems like a year, though."

1st Lt. Anne Christenson

heat, disease and dust of Somalia.

More than 500 troops were scheduled to leave Wednesday, reducing Marine strength to less than 9,000.

Another spokesman, Army Lt. Col. Steve Ritter, told the daily briefing that U.S. strength had probably reached its peak in numbers but about 430 support troops, mostly from the Army, will be arriving as part of the logistics task force.

The United States reportedly will provide logistics support to the U.N. command once it is set up.

The Marines are providing security for aid workers trying to break through the

famine, disease, lawlessness and civil war that have taken 350,000 Somali lives in the past year.

"I'm excited to be leaving Somalia," said 1st Lt. Anne Christenson, 25, of Vancouver, Wash., looking forward to a reunion with her husband, who is in the Navy.

"It's a pretty hard place to be living in, the heat, the dirt, being shot at. I've only been here for five weeks. It seems like a year, though."

Christenson, an intelligence officer who tracked Somali gangs and bandits, said Mogadishu is much more secure than

when the first Marines arrived Dec. 9.

"Some of the schools have started up again," she said. "Some of the police forces have started taking control of the city. They're trying to take the city back from the gangs and bandits."

Even as the battalion was leaving, other Marines providing security for relief workers in the countryside came under sniper fire but there were no casualties. Two Somalis were captured and turned over to local authorities.

Since American forces arrived in Somalia, one Marine has been killed and one Marine and one Navy corpsman wounded.

As the first American troops departed, representatives of Mogadishu's two major warlords, Ali Mahdi Mohamed and Mohamed Farrah Aidid, tore down the barricades along the capital's embattled Green Line in a symbolic gesture of reconciliation.

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FRESHMEN

From page 1
of liberals and conservatives in a Cal Poly classroom, you have to be prepared to get a barrage from the right."

McKibbin, however, said the college-age generation is more involved in certain liberal issues, such as the environment.

McKibbin's opinion is shared by V.L. Holland, a professor and chair of Cal Poly's biological sciences department.

"People are becoming more concerned over health and environmental issues, basically over the living part of the planet," Holland said.

He correlates such concern with the survey's results which showed an increased student interest in the biological science field. That increase has been seen at Cal Poly as well, he said.

In contrast to the rise in applications for biological sciences majors, the survey showed that interest in business-related majors continued to decline.

John Rogers, interim dean of Cal Poly's College of Business, said first-time freshmen applications to the school decreased from last year, which were a decrease from the year before.

Rogers cited a general decline in college business programs and the state budget as possible reasons for the decrease.

"People are worried, and are going out of state to go to school," Rogers said. "If I were a college freshman and (was) worried about the budget to the Cal State system, about getting my classes, about getting through in four and a half to five years, I might pay the money and go to Santa Clara (University)."

The survey affirmed a continuing trend toward economic considerations playing a role in students' decisions about college choice. Thirty percent of this year's students said they selected their freshmen college on the basis of low tuition.

This year's survey also reported a decrease in beer and alcohol consumption among freshmen, with 53.5 percent saying they "frequently" or "occasionally" drank beer.

But that figure may change, according to Polly Harrigan, Cal Poly's associate director of housing.

A Cal Poly alcohol and drug survey conducted last April found that 68 percent of undergraduate students drink, indicating alcohol use at least once in the previous 30 days.

Harrigan credited the different figures to the age and circumstances of the respondents.

"The difference is you're looking at freshmen coming to college," Harrigan said. "So there's a different drinking pattern perhaps for high school students than college students. It is shown that there is an increase of alcohol consumption at the college level than people who don't go to college."

This was the first time Cal Poly freshmen were asked to put their two-cents worth into the survey. The campus joined the 27th annual survey to gain information about incoming Cal Poly students, according to Glenn Irvin, associate vice president for Academic Affairs.

"By participating in this project," he said, "we were able to get data specifically on our student responses and then compare that with a national database and with students at similar institutions."

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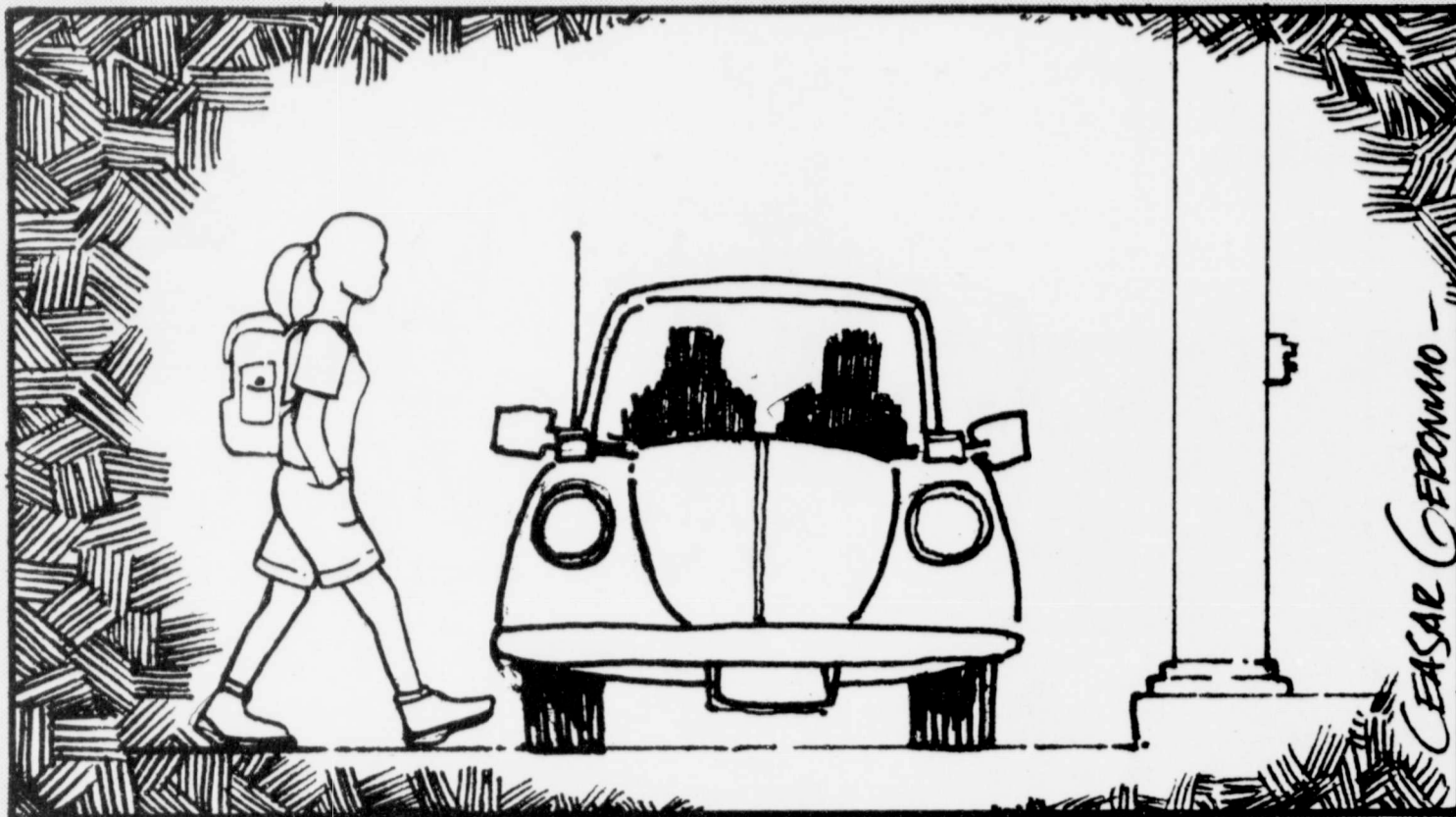
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REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK

Happy Feet



By Amy Hooper

The recent rainy weather brought into focus the reality of life without a car. Normally I don't mind not having wheels at my disposal, but cold moisture tends to change my attitude.

As I waited at the bus stop, my jeans slowly soaking up the moisture buffeted against them, my eyes began to change color. Usually my eyes are blue, but I could feel them turn green with every passing motorist — every warm, dry motorist. There I stood, waiting in the natural elements, my umbrella turning inside-out no less than three times from the wind, and those folks traveled in luxury!

That's what a car in San Luis Obispo is — a luxury, not a necessity. It isn't a required facet of life. In dry weather, I have no qualms about hopping on the bus or moving around under my own power. This town is small enough to move about without the aid of an automobile, but the same cannot be said for my hometown, Huntington Beach.

It's not a huge place, like Los Angeles, but Huntington covers a lot of territory, as befits a city with a population near 200,000. Last time I noticed the sign on Highway 101, the figure for SLO's population read 48,000. Obviously, not as much room is needed to house the smaller number of people. Ah, but you say this is an agricultural area which includes lots of open space. Well, unless you are involved in the Ag industry or actually live in the boondocks, you can still move about easily.

I live at 61 Broad St., a rather convenient location. The bus stops at our back door twice an hour, once on the way to Cal Poly and then on its way downtown. That itinerary covers all my needs, and although the bus schedule doesn't always conform to my demands, it does a pretty good job.

Whenever I miss the bus, my

feet come into play, making for a 20-minute walk to Cal Poly and a half-hour stroll downtown. Putting one foot in front of the other requires more effort than sitting in a car, but the benefits are worth it.

Walking doesn't contribute to pollution. The time required to move from one place to another gives me the opportunity to think, daydream, zone out, whatever. I can listen to a novel

That's what a car in San Luis Obispo is -- a luxury, not a necessity.

or sing with Simon & Garfunkel. My legs get some exercise, and I have more direct contact with the community.

If not for walking down Broad Street, I never would've met the cute Rottweiler puppy who bounded up to the chain link fence for some ear-scratching or noticed the house with the ever-changing variety of flowers in the front yard. I would've missed the plastic woodpeckers in the trees of one house and the beautiful trellis of another home. Nor would I have had the time to really look at the variety of houses. Did you notice how they each possess their own style, compared to the cookie-cutter houses in larger places like Huntington?

My hometown doesn't have little creeks meandering through the neighborhoods, something I noticed while walking around. Can you hear the ducks quacking back and forth while in your car?

My purpose is not to bag on automobiles but to point out the little things you miss while encased in metal or fiberglass. Some of us take cars for granted as the only way of getting about our daily business, but it doesn't have to be that way. Granted, I would have had a much harder time living in Orange County without a car, but up here it's no big deal.

Dad once offered to loan me a yellow VW Bug while living away from home. My friends thought I was slightly loony to decline, but the financial responsibilities of insuring, maintaining and fueling a car overwhelmed me. I'd rather not become a slave to a material object.

Sometimes I regret that decision and yearn for the convenience of a car — but only in extreme cases. Take last weekend, for an example. A childhood buddy invited me to her wedding in Huntington. I had to go; Erin became my friend in second grade. How could I skip this occasion? But here I was in SLO.

While the ride board in the U.U. sometimes offers possibilities, it seems like most of the drivers are guys, and I'd rather not get in a car with an unknown male, ya know? I doubted that my usual ride-dude planned to head south so soon after the beginning of the quarter, so I opted for the train.

What usually takes three-and-a-half hours to traverse by car took almost nine hours by bus and train. Times like that, I would love to drive my own car. But cases such as this happen once in a blue moon. Most of the time, I'm perfectly content to exist without a gas-guzzler.

Until the next rainstorm arrives.

Amy Hooper is a journalism junior. This is her first quarter reporting for Mustang Daily.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'Cosmetic' cabinet appointees

During the past century, we have seen in America a wonderful and positive shift from a society governed by prominent white upper-class males, to one more racially and gender balanced. While this transformation is far from complete, it has occurred to an extensive degree in a relatively short period of time.

While great strides have been made in creating a more balanced structure of representation, a majority of Americans would agree that serious misrepresentation does still exist at all levels of government; local, state and federal.

The election of a Democrat to the office of president will provide a fresh and positive outlook for our nation's future.

Perhaps the prime example of this future is the nomination of a diverse presidential cabinet, a well educated and multicultural group comprised of a large number of women and minorities.

Yet some of these appointments were made on the basis of race or gender. Higher qualified candidates were passed up for consideration because of their male caucasian status.

But is the "politically correct" thing really the most correct thing? Is it better to appoint a candidate more cosmetically appealing than experienced?

I look forward to a society where everyone is represented to a fair degree and believes that to be so. But I look upon as backwards a society where those holding positions of power are appointed on the basis of race or gender, and not entirely on their qualifications.

The gains made towards equality have been truly monumental, but nothing can change overnight. The furthering of appointment by race or gender will only serve to breed continued contempt and misunderstanding between racial communities.

Stanley Langland
Forestry/Resource Management

Jordan, Egypt have no valid claim

Contrary to the fraudulent claims of irresponsible Palestinian and Arab schemers, the West Bank and Gaza Strip are not "occupied territories." The West Bank and Gaza Strip are "liberated territories" and are legitimate parts of Israel.

The West Bank and Gaza were liberated by Israel in June, 1967 from almost 20 years of illegal occupation by Jordan and Egypt. This illegal Arab occupation began in December, 1947, when Transjordan (now Jordan) and Egypt invaded and occupied the West Bank and Gaza.

The international community and the United Nations do not recognize the acquisition of territory by war. Also, Paragraph Two of Resolution 242 refers to "the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by war..."

Transjordan (now Jordan) and Egypt "acquired" the West Bank and Gaza "by war" in December, 1947. Therefore, since "acquisition by war" is not recognized, Jordan and Egypt do not have a valid claim to the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Robert C. Ewing
Santa Maria Resident

Daily doesn't measure up

The Jan. 19 edition of the Weekly World News (DA News to fans) bears the headline: "Drug Boss Sawed in Half!" The nearly full page photo which accompanies it depicts a Medellin Cartel kingpin being slaughtered by Colombian police with a three-foot radial arm saw.

Now that's truly world class coverage of events which directly influence the way people think and act. What do you think my chances are of getting into the drug-pushing business now? Not much.

In contrast, the Jan. 15 Mustang Daily bears the screaming legend: "Powerful storm etc., etc..." What kind of headline is that? When can we expect responsible journalism of weekly world news caliber?

Karl Loeffler
Architecture

Correction:

The article entitled "Galerie events dare students to face social issues" in the Jan. 14 issue of Mustang Daily erroneously reported artist Rupert Garcia's lecture as occurring on Thursday, Jan. 14. The lecture will actually take place Thursday, Jan. 21, in room 220 of the University Union at 11 a.m., and will be followed by a reception in the U.U. Gallery, room 221. Mustang Daily attempted to correct the error Friday but was misinformed as to the correct time. The Daily apologizes for the error and any resulting inconvenience.

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Tuesday, Jan. 19, 3 pm - 5 pm
University Union, Room 218

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Returned Volunteers Discussion
Thursday, Jan. 21, 7 pm - 9 pm
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CLINTON

From page 1

his opponents — are watching with a wary eye. Interviews with two dozen voters last week — a diverse group all interviewed previously during the presidential campaign — suggest the roller-coaster of public opinion Clinton rode on his path to the presidency is far from over.

"I am encouraged and I am certainly going to give him some latitude," said Sacramento, Calif., attorney Gail White, a Ross Perot organizer. "But don't talk to me anymore — do something. I'm watching and waiting."

Public and private polling — including post-election surveys by Clinton's pollster — reinforce the findings of the voter interviews.

Clinton's favorability ratings have soared since the election — to 71 percent in one recent survey — and the pessimism that cost George Bush a second term is giving way to optimism. A mid-December NBC-Wall Street Journal national poll, for example, found that 47 percent of registered voters believed the country was heading in the right direction — three times the 16 percent who believed that just before the election.

"The level of optimism is quite extraordinary and I'm frankly stunned by the degree of hopefulness that has swept the country," said Clinton pollster Stanley Greenberg. "There's not a lot of depth to any of this at the moment, but it does reflect an enormous amount of good will."

In many ways, the mood and desires of the voters appear contradictory.

They have high expectations for Clinton after a campaign in which he promised to revive the moribund economy and struck a chord with voters by pledging to ease two of their greatest worries: the financial burdens of college and health care.

Yet even as they finish talking about their desire for fast action they shift into sober discussions of the hurdles Clinton faces: budget restraints, the maze of special interests in Washington, an uncertain relationship with Congress. Some already sense a retreat from campaign promises, and worry that their trust in Clinton is misplaced.

"I must say I'm a little confused about changes in his plan," said George Wefing, a lifetime Republican from Apalachicola, Fla., who voted for Clinton because of his soaring health care premiums. "But I'll give him a year before I pass judgment. He's got a lot of big things to do so we have to be patient."

Like track coach Powers, who voted for Bush, most of the voters talked more about their children and grandchildren than themselves — worrying aloud about health care costs, a national debt they see crumbling the foundation of the nation's future, turmoil and uncertainty in so many places around the globe.

"I love them and hope that they are able to live in a world that is free from all of these problems, both at home and in Somalia, Iraq, around the world," Powers said of his grandchildren. "I just hope he takes the long view."

Mustang Daily

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Poly splits weekend games

By Kevin Bolinger
Staff Writer

Teams are tested in the face of adversity.

This season, the Cal Poly men's basketball team has had its share of tests — and so far the Mustangs are surviving with passing grades.

Over the weekend, the Mustangs split their two games at Mott Gym, beating Chapman 89-83 on Friday night and falling to Cal State Dominguez Hills 68-65 on Saturday.

Last week's announcement that Cal Poly center Shawn Kirkeby's collegiate career is

over due to knee problems, coupled with starting guard Jeff Oliver being sidelined with a leg injury, left Mustang head coach Steve Beason looking for a big effort from his younger players and leadership from the remaining veterans.

"We have to play hard every night out," said Beason, whose team's record stands at 1-3 in conference, 7-9 overall.

If last weekend's games are a sign of things to come, then the Mustangs are on the verge of picking up the pieces and putting together a competitive package that could make a run at the California Collegiate Athletic As-

sociation Tournament.

In Friday's victory over Chapman, Cal Poly placed five players in double figures, led by Scott Kjellesvig's 18, with Kyle Ellis and Bubba Burrage pumping in 17 points apiece.

But the key to the win was on the boards, where the Mustangs used a height advantage to out-rebound Chapman 43-28, including 19-10 on the offensive glass.

"We just crashed the boards," Kjellesvig said. "It's fun to get a big rebounding win."

Saturday night's loss to Dominguez Hills was a seesaw affair featuring 11 ties and 17 lead changes.

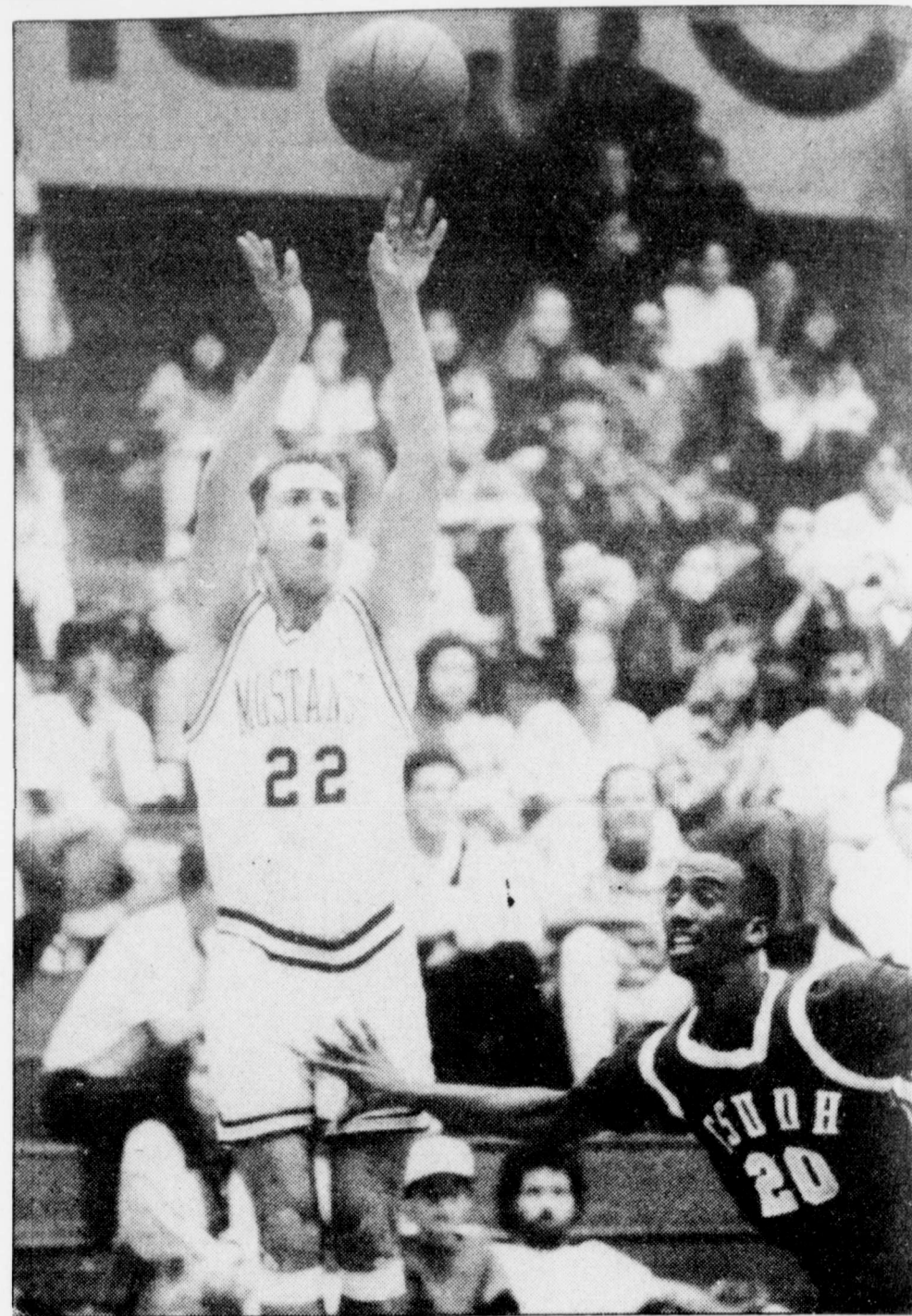
Ellis paced Cal Poly with 18 points, including 4 of 5 shooting from three-point range. But the Mustangs' touch went cold in the second half, shooting only 26 percent.

However, the statistic that is most glaring is the large disparity at the free throw line, with the Toros going to the charity stripe 22 more times than Cal Poly.

Beason said the high foul total is partly due to his team's aggressive defensive play.

"If we keep playing hard defensively, we'll become more efficient and foul less," Beason said. "We're playing hard. If we keep this up, we're going to win."

Oliver's status is day-to-day pending examination of the x-rays of his leg. He's listed as questionable as the Mustangs take their 1-3 conference record on the road this weekend with games in Pomona and Los Angeles before returning to Mott Gym for a three-game homestand.



STEVE McCRAK/Mustang Daily

Poly's Matt Clawson shoots over added pressure Saturday night.

Mustangs swim past foes

By Chris Rogers
Staff Writer

On a weekend where the rain washed away everything in its path, the Cal Poly men's and

women's swimming teams did the same to their competition.

After soundly beating UC Santa Cruz on Friday, Mustang swimmers entered the weekend with a combined 9-2 record.

The Cal Poly men fared much better than the women Saturday versus Cal State Northridge.

The Mustang men charged out to early wins in the 400 medley relay and the 200 freestyle en route to a 115-105 win.

Jeremy Brannon swam to victories in the 100 and 200 freestyle, while Trevor Sanders won the 50 freestyle and Scott Gavel won the 200 backstroke. The Mustangs closed the meet with a victory in the 400 freestyle relay.

Unfortunately for the women, Northridge came to Cal Poly with plenty of rain gear, and a flood of talent.

Without any divers for Cal Poly's women, they started the swimming events 26 points behind Northridge, and never made up the ground.

The women won only one event on the afternoon and fell 154.5-76.5.

Maria Slight's victory in the 200 breaststroke was the lone Cal Poly win.

Jenni Fricker had two second-place finishes for the Mustangs in the 200 individual medley and the 200 breaststroke, almost qualifying for Nationals with her time in the latter event.

Also with strong performances were Jody Campbell and Steph Keller.

"We were behind right from the start," said Cal Poly's Trish Hanon. "And they have a really good team."

Mustang coach Rich Firman said that he's happy with the performances of both the men and the women and is confident that they will continue with a successful season.

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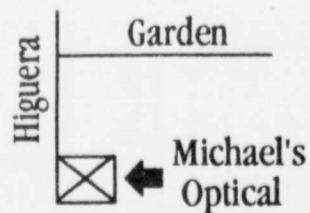
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